



**CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**  
IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT  
& HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

**PACIFIC DISASTER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION NETWORK (PDMIN)**

1 Jarrett White Rd. MCPA-DM • Tripler AMC, HI 96859-5000

Telephone: 808.433.7035 • Fax: 808.433.1757

PDMIN@coe-dmha.org • <http://coe-dmha.org/apdr>



**ASIA-PACIFIC DISEASE OUTBREAK  
/SURVEILLANCE REPORT**

**Week of Oct 10, 2005**

**AUSTRALIA**

**Salmonella Outbreak in Tasmania, Australia**

An outbreak of salmonellosis in Tasmania, Australia has been reported, with over 50 recorded cases. Six people have been hospitalized. The cause of the outbreak is unknown, but may be linked to two bakery companies which are currently being investigated. Doctors expect the number of cases to increase over the next several days.

**Source:**

· Tasmanian News, Oct 10, 2005, <http://www.examiner.com.au/story.asp?id=310874>

· ABC News Online, Oct 10, 2005, <http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200510/s1478121.htm>

· ProMED-mail, Oct 11, 2005,

[http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1010,30642](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1010,30642)

**CHINA**

**Infectious Diseases in China Have Killed 3,100 Since July**

From July to September [2005], infectious diseases have killed 3,102 people in China. During the same time period, over 1.4 million have been infected with various infectious diseases. Tuberculosis, rabies, AIDS, hepatitis B and encephalitis B have been the most prevalent infectious diseases. The health ministry has advised local health officials to closely monitor the current cholera outbreak.

**Source:**

· ShanghaiDaily.com, Oct 12, 2005, [http://www.shanghaidaily.com/art/2005/10/12/201050/Infectious\\_diseases\\_claim\\_3\\_100.htm](http://www.shanghaidaily.com/art/2005/10/12/201050/Infectious_diseases_claim_3_100.htm)

**Cholera Outbreak in Eastern China**

A cholera outbreak has affected 158 people in the affluent city of Jiaxing, Zhejiang province, near Shanghai. There have been no deaths from the outbreak. The city has

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a high number of intestinal illness cases within the province. The health ministry advised regions to increase their cholera alert level and to take action for prevention and control of the disease. From June through September [2005], China reported 638 cases of cholera.

**Source:**

- Reuters AlertNet, Oct 10, 2005, <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/SHA223926.htm>
- China View, Oct 11, 2005, [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005-10/11/content\\_3606331.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005-10/11/content_3606331.htm)

## INDIA

### India's Dengue Cases Reach 316

Dengue fever continues to spread in New Delhi, India, as the number of cases has reached 316. Health officials believe that the numbers will increase until November and may reach 800. Four deaths from dengue fever have been reported this year [2005] in India. Most of the infected are children between the ages of five and fifteen. Doctors are placing infected people in quarantine and treating them with plasma, antibiotics, IV drips, water and bed rest.

**Source:**

- Ahmedabad Newsline, Oct 11, 2005, <http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=152612>
- Delhi Newsline, Oct 13, 2005, <http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=152885>
- Times of India, Oct 14, 2005, <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1261867.cms>

### Japanese Encephalitis Epidemic Continues in Northern India

The ongoing Japanese encephalitis outbreak in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar (northern India) has killed 15 more people, raising the death toll to 1,058. The majority of the deaths have been children. Medical facilities in the region are severely understaffed and lack resources for vaccinations. About 350 people are currently hospitalized. Officials expected the number of cases to drop with the end of the monsoon season, but the numbers of patients continue to increase.

**Source:**

- The Khaleej Times, Oct 09, 2005, [http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/October/subcontinent\\_October318.xml&section=subcontinent&col](http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/October/subcontinent_October318.xml&section=subcontinent&col)
- ProMED-mail, Oct 11, 2005, [http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1010,30646](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1010,30646)
- Mail & Guardian Online, Oct 13, 2005, [http://www.mg.co.za/articlePage.aspx?articleid=253227&area=/breaking\\_news/breaking\\_news\\_international\\_news/](http://www.mg.co.za/articlePage.aspx?articleid=253227&area=/breaking_news/breaking_news_international_news/)

## INDONESIA

### Another Person Dies From Suspected Avian Influenza in Indonesia

Another person has died from a suspected case of avian influenza in Jakarta, Indonesia this week. The WHO has confirmed three additional avian influenza deaths in Indonesia. The latest victim's four-year old cousin also tested positive for the disease. Currently, six patients are receiving treatment in a Jakarta hospital for avian influenza

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symptoms. Indonesia has been trying to stop the spread of the disease by immediately hospitalizing those with symptoms and immunizing poultry. The country is presently testing its supply of avian influenza vaccines as it was recently discovered that local vaccine companies were producing substandard doses.

**Source:**

· The World Health Organization, Oct 10, 2005, [http://www.who.int/csr/don/2005\\_10\\_10/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/don/2005_10_10/en/index.html)  
· ProMED-mail, Oct 10, 2005, [http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1010.30625](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1010.30625)  
· The Jakarta Post, Oct 11, 2005, <http://www.thejakartapost.com/detaillatestnews.asp?fileid=20051010142102&iREC=3>  
· ProMED-mail, Oct 12, 2005, [http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1000.30657](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1000.30657)

## **Diarrhea Outbreak in West Sumatra, Indonesia**

Over 30 people have been treated for diarrhea in a West Sumatran village. The cause of the outbreak is unknown. Seven children are among the affected. The patients were treated with intravenous fluids.

**Source:**

· Antara News, Oct 10, 2005, <http://www.antara.co.id/en/seenews/?id=6750>

## **MALAYSIA**

### **Malaysia Reports Dengue Cases Increasing**

Last week, Malaysia reported over 1,200 probable cases of dengue fever. This brings the total number of cases this year [2005] to over 29,000. The death toll this year [2005] is 76. The Health Ministry believes the death toll will surpass last year's [2004] number of 102 unless eradication efforts increase. Health officials are trying to stop the spread of the disease through construction site and residential inspections for mosquitoes.

**Source:**

· ProMED-mail, Oct 09, 2005, [http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1000.30622](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1000.30622)  
· www.iol.co.za, Oct 12, 2005, [http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?set\\_id=1&click\\_id=126&art\\_id=qw112908996351R131](http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?set_id=1&click_id=126&art_id=qw112908996351R131)

### **Malaria Reported in Malaysia**

The Health Ministry in Malaysia has reported five cases of malaria. One of the affected has been recognized as a carrier of malaria. This individual recently returned to Malaysia from a three-month trip to India. He was admitted to a hospital on 4 October [2005] with malaria symptoms. Four of his co-workers displayed similar symptoms and were admitted to hospitals the next day. The victims are all employed at the same quarry and are currently under observation.

**Source:**

· The New Strait Times, Oct 11, 2005, [http://www.nst.com.my/Current\\_News/NST/Wednesday/National/20051012080428/Article/indexb.html](http://www.nst.com.my/Current_News/NST/Wednesday/National/20051012080428/Article/indexb.html)

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### **Students Experience Food Poisoning in Malaysian High School**

Over 200 students experienced food poisoning after eating breakfast at a high school in Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia (central region) on 10 October [2005]. Seventy-two students were hospitalized. The students reported diarrhea and stomachaches after eating nasi minyak (scented rice) and rendang ayam (chicken in coconut milk). This episode has been reported as the worst food poisoning in schools this year [2005].

**Source:**

· The New Strait Times, Oct 12, 2005, [http://www.nst.com.my/Current\\_News/NST/Thursday/National/20051013082047/Article/indexb.html](http://www.nst.com.my/Current_News/NST/Thursday/National/20051013082047/Article/indexb.html)

## **PHILIPPINES**

### **Cholera Outbreak in the Philippines**

Over thirty people have died from a cholera outbreak in the Bicol area (southeast of Manila) of the Philippines. About 805 people have been infected, but health officials are reporting a reduction in the number of cases. The outbreak is believed to have been caused by sanitation problems, as the region has recently dealt with torrential rains and flooding has contaminated drinking water. Medical teams have been sent to the affected areas.

**Source:**

· Today Online, Oct 07, 2005, <http://www.todayonline.com/articles/76898.asp>

## **SOUTH KOREA**

### **Seoul, Korea on Tuberculosis Alert**

Korean health officials are on alert as over 40,000 citizens in Seoul, Korea were infected with tuberculosis between 2001 and 2004. The health and welfare committee released information that 93.1 out of 100,000 people in Seoul had TB during the past four years. Among the 30 countries in the Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD), Korea has the highest TB infection rate. The disease has the ability to spread easily in the capital due to the high population.

**Source:**

· The Korea Times, Oct 10, 2005, <http://times.hankooki.com/lpage/nation/200510/kt2005101019411011970.htm>

## **Other World News**

### **AFGHANISTAN**

#### **Afghanistan Reports Increase in HIV/AIDS Cases**

The Afghan Health Ministry is concerned with the country's increase in the number of HIV/AIDS cases. Although official data for HIV/AIDS cases is inadequate, Afghanistan currently has 41 confirmed cases. The Health Ministry believes that there may be up to 1,500 cases throughout the country. One reason for the spread of the disease is the

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movement of migrants in Afghanistan, in addition to open borders. Other reasons include a lack of awareness and education of the disease, an increase in intravenous drug use, and prostitution. Support for infected citizens has not been fully developed, as there is only one voluntary counseling and testing facility in the country.

**Source:**

· Reuters Foundation AlertNet, Oct 11, 2005, <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/IRIN/1157fea220f8d383ede0d551eb7431e5.htm>

## **PAKISTAN**

### **Diseases Spreading in Earthquake-Affected Pakistan**

Due to the recent earthquake in Pakistan, diseases such as gangrene, malaria and diarrhea are spreading rapidly among villagers in the devastated areas. As the only drinking supply has been contaminated by corpses and sewage, people are affected by diarrhea. Medical care and supplies are unavailable as health facilities were damaged during the earthquake and many doctors have died. The UN has reported cholera and pneumonia alerts and the World Health Organization is working to coordinate relief and assistance in the region.

**Source:**

· Reuters AlertNet, Oct 11, 2005, <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/ISL203581.htm>

· The Khaleej Times Online, Oct 12, 2005,

[http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/October/subcontinent\\_October451.xml&section=subcontinent&col](http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/October/subcontinent_October451.xml&section=subcontinent&col)

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